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Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Security Council
Seventy-first year

Identical letters dated 23 May 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, dated 19 May 2016, concerning the murder committed in the village of Khurcha, Zugdidi District, on 19 May 2016 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex issued as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 35, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kaha **Imnadze**
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 23 May 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia concerning the murder committed in the village of Khurcha, Zugdidi District, on 19 May 2016

Tbilisi, 19 May 2016

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia is deeply concerned by the murder committed in the village of Khurcha, Zugdidi District, and expresses its heartfelt condolences to the family and relatives of the victim, Giga Otkhozoria. This criminal act once again demonstrates the highly alarming situation in the occupied region of Abkhazia, Georgia, and the full responsibility for it lies with the Russian Federation exercising effective control over the region. This criminal act reconfirms the need to establish international security mechanisms in the Russian-occupied Abkhazia and Tskhinvali regions of Georgia.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia immediately informed the European Union monitoring mission and the Co-Chairs of the Geneva international discussions representing the European Union, the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and requested their due reaction. In addition, the Head of the Georgian delegation to the Geneva international discussions, David Dondua, has had a telephone conversation with the Head of the Russian delegation.

The Georgian side will apply all existing international mechanisms to ensure both political and legal responses and to bring to justice those responsible for the crime.